

in her involvement in community activities. I encourage her to aspire to make a difference in the world by continuing to cultivate her leadership skills.

I look forward to hearing more about her successes as she continues to pursue her education and personal goals. Congratulations to her parents Kendall and Sandra Moser, who have raised their daughter to be an exemplary representative of the United States on the international stage. I wish Ashley and her family the very best in their future endeavors.●

COMMENDING THE HONOLULU BULLS

● Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I congratulate the Honolulu Bulls Soccer Club's Under-14 Division Girls Team for winning the Dana Cup No. 1 in Hjørring, Denmark. The Dana Cup is an international soccer tournament that takes place every summer and includes 300 girls and boys teams from 30 nations. The Under-14 Division Girls Team was one of 2 teams representing the United States out of 47 teams in that division. This was the first time a team from Hawaii has won this prestigious international tournament.

I wish to acknowledge the girls' skill, hard work, and dedication to soccer that led them to this unprecedented victory. They showed strength and agility as they went undefeated in eight matches without a single goal scored against them. A special congratulations goes to Malia Brennan, who received the Golden Boot Award as the top player in the girls Under-14 Division. I wish to also acknowledge her teammates on their success: Jayci Cabael, Kayla Cabael, Lauren Stollar, Brooke Lovelace, Kianna Akazawa, Caprice Dydasco, Kadi Lee, Staci Mihara, Teisha Nacis, Sierra Nicols, Steffani Tanaka, Gabby Yates, McKenna Davidson, and Tracee Fukunaga. Their parents and families are recognized as well for their commitment, sacrifice, and support that helped shape and instill in them important values that led to their success.

These young women could not have gotten where they are today without the support and knowledge of the game passed down to them from their coaches, Rick Chong and Kerry Milke. I commend these two men on their dedication to teaching, nourishing, and raising our next generation of athletes.

I also congratulate everyone at the Honolulu Bulls Soccer Club for their commitment to educating and developing youth soccer players that strive to be competitive regionally, nationally, and internationally. I wish nothing but the best for the girls, their family, and coaches and wish them success in future endeavors.●

RECOGNIZING THE ARMY VETERINARY CORPS

● Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the hard work and

meritorious sacrifice of the Army Veterinary Corps. Their efforts support the global war on terrorism by protecting not only the military men and women serving our country, but our armed forces' animals as well.

The Army Veterinary Corps was formally established in 1916. However, the need for a military veterinary service was recognized as far back as the Revolutionary War. George Washington knew that if the Army used horses, it needed farriers as well. The program continued through the 19th century and when the Civil War began, the War Department issued orders that provided each cavalry regiment with a veterinary surgeon. As early as the 1890s, army veterinarians were sought to inspect meat, poultry and dairy products destined for the frontier posts.

Veterinary officers were first commissioned following the passage of the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, and the Army Veterinary Corps became a reality. While providing care to the military's working animals would be part of the Army veterinarian's function, food safety and regulation was a primary mission upon the Army Veterinary Corps creation.

After the start of World War I, veterinarians within the ranks of the Army rose from 57 to 2,313 in just 18 months. Since World War I, the Veterinary Corps has remained an essential asset to our Nation's military by ensuring the health of both our animals and troops. The Air Force formed a veterinary service in 1949 as well, but in 1979, Congress directed changes to Department of Defense's veterinary missions and in 1980 the Army became DOD's Executive Agent for veterinary services.

Today the mission of the Army Veterinary Corps includes maintaining food safety and defense, animal medicine, and medical research support. Part of this mission is protecting the food of deployed soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. In the global war on terrorism, more than 200 U.S. Army veterinarians have deployed in support of our Nation's efforts. The threat of BSE, the spinach recall due to pathogenic E. coli, and the ongoing pet food recall are just a few examples that illustrate the necessity of having robust food safety programs throughout DOD. Army veterinary service personnel audit more than 3,800 food producers in more than 80 countries annually to ensure safe food for service members and beneficiaries. Approximately 75 percent of emerging pathogens are zoonotic, meaning they are shared by both animals and man, such as avian influenza.

Army veterinarians have actively contributed to military and inter-agency planning processes as well. They recently participated in the development of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Avian Influenza Playbook in support of the National Response Plan. Veterinary personnel are also an essential contributor in over-

seas avian influenza testing and surveillance programs.

The Army Veterinary Corps executes programs to test for, monitor and control other emerging diseases, like West Nile Virus, numerous food borne diseases, certain parasitic infections, and rabies. Army veterinarians direct animal medicine programs that protect both military members and their pets. In the same role, they also provide veterinary medical care for the Government-owned and contractor military working dogs which detect explosives, weapons and other devices. These animals help to literally take these weapons out of the hands of terrorists and insurgents.

Here at home, military veterinary supervision of operational ration assembly plants, supply and distribution points, ports, and other types of subsistence operations are critical to ensuring safe, wholesome food for our soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and their family members. The service provided by the Army Veterinary Corps remains an increasingly vital component of our homeland defense.

There are nearly 700 veterinarians serving on active duty, Army Reserve, and National Guard today. These brave service men and women proudly protect our Nation and its animals. I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to these veterinarians and their staffs who dedicate their time and efforts in aid to the United States of America. As a veterinarian, I am proud to see them portray a positive image of our country, both at home and deployed abroad.●

RECOGNIZING ADMIRAL EDMUND P. GIAMBASTIANI, JR.

● Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I wish to recognize ADM Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr. for his 37 years of dedicated service to our Nation. Next month, Admiral Giambastiani, or "Admiral G" as he is known by those who have worked closely with him, will retire from his position as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. A native New Yorker, Admiral Giambastiani hails from Canastota, a small town near Syracuse. Following his graduation from Canastota High School, he entered the U.S. Naval Academy in the summer of 1966. For the next 4 years, Admiral Giambastiani learned and practiced many of the values and skills that would guide him later in life and ultimately to the most senior levels of the Department of Defense.

Admiral Giambastiani's early career brought him back to the State of New York where he served at the Naval Reserve Training Center in Whitestone and later at the Nuclear-Powered Training Unit in Schenectady. He served his first fleet assignments aboard the USS *Puffer* and USS *Francis Scott Key*. Later, Admiral Giambastiani commanded submarine NR-1, the Navy's only nuclear-powered, deep-diving ocean-engineering and research

submarine, as well as the USS *Richard B. Russell*, whose crew was awarded three consecutive Battle Efficiency "E" awards, three Navy Unit Commendations, and two Fleet Commander Silver Anchors for excellence in enlisted retention.

As his career progressed, so too did the assignments that the admiral was given. Admiral Giambastiani led the Submarine Development Squadron Twelve, an attack submarine squadron that serves as the Navy's Warfare Center of Excellence for submarine doctrine and attacks. He was also the first director of strategy and concepts at the Naval Doctrine Command and the commander of the Atlantic Fleet Submarine Force. He served as the commander of the Submarines Allied Command Atlantic; the Anti-Submarine and Reconnaissance Forces Atlantic in Norfolk, VA; and as NATO's first supreme allied commander for transformation. In each of these assignments, Admiral Giambastiani performed his duties with distinction.

On the morning of September 11, 2001, Admiral Giambastiani was working in the Pentagon as the Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense. On that day and those that followed, Admiral Giambastiani worked tirelessly to respond to the aftermath of that attack.

Admiral Giambastiani served as commander of Joint Forces Command from October of 2002 to August of 2005. During this period, Joint Forces Command deployed headquarters personnel in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, established assessment teams for global contingency operations to ensure the application of joint doctrine and practices, and provided oversight of numerous training exercises for deploying task force headquarters staffs to Iraq.

During this time, I worked closely with Admiral Giambastiani as a member of Joint Forces Command's Transformation Advisory Group, a body that the admiral formed to provide U.S. Joint Forces Command with independent advice and recommendations on strategic, scientific, technical, intelligence and policy-related issues. I have great personal and intellectual respect for Admiral Giambastiani and admire his openness to new ideas, his commitment to joint transformation, and his dedication to supporting our servicemembers.

In 2005, Admiral Giambastiani was nominated to serve as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and I had the honor of introducing Admiral Giambastiani at his confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee. During his tenure as Vice Chairman, Admiral Giambastiani has worked diligently to improve and transform our Nation's defense capabilities. He has served as the chairman of the Joint Requirements Oversight Council, where he worked to make it more responsive to the requests of our military commanders and to syn-

chronize the delivery of resources needed by our servicemembers.

On behalf of my constituents in New York and of all Americans, I want to express my gratitude to Admiral Giambastiani for his many years of public service. I invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me today in recognizing and honoring Admiral Giambastiani for the service and commitment to the country that he represents.●

TRIBUTE TO WALTER JOHNSON

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to a great American who spent a little time in my home State of Idaho.

Today marks the 100th anniversary of Hall of Fame pitcher Walter Johnson's Major League debut for the Washington Senators. On this day—August 2—in 1907, Walter "Big Train" Johnson took the field as the starting pitcher for the first time in what would be a 21-year career.

Interestingly enough, I actually have quite a bit in common with Walter Johnson. We both grew up in small towns; we share a connection to Washington County, ID. Johnson played semiprofessional ball in Weiser; I am a Republican, as was Johnson; and both of us are, or were, Senators—Johnson played for the Washington Senators.

Let me explain a little bit about our shared connection to Washington County. Walter Johnson was discovered while playing semiprofessional baseball in the Idaho State League. He played for the team in Weiser, ID; I could almost toss a baseball to Weiser from my hometown of Midvale. Johnson spent 2 years playing in Weiser from 1905 to 1907.

The Washington Senators tried to sign Johnson in 1906, but having grown up in small towns in Kansas and California, Johnson preferred the small-town life and was unsure about moving to Washington, DC.

The following year, the Senators sent their catcher, Cliff Blankenship, to scout Johnson and try to sign him. Blankenship was told to try to get a hit off of Johnson.

Blankenship tried but was unsuccessful. He sent a telegram to his manager back in Washington, saying, "You can't hit what you can't see. I've signed him and he is on his way."

For most of his career, Walter Johnson's pitches were considered to be practically un-hittable. Because the radar gun had not yet been invented, nobody knows for sure just how hard he could throw a baseball. But most experts estimate that he could top 100 miles per hour with ease.

His stature was equally intimidating. Johnson stood 6-foot-1 and weighed in at 200 pounds, earning him the nickname "The Big Train."

Hall of Famer Ty Cobb was arguably the best hitter ever to play the game. Cobb faced Walter Johnson in Johnson's debut game on August 2, 1907. Al-

though Johnson and the Senators lost, 3 to 2, Cobb gave Johnson high praise, saying, "The first time I faced him, I watched him take that easy windup, and then something went past me that made me flinch. I hardly saw the pitch, but I heard it. The thing just hissed with danger. Every one of us knew we'd met the most powerful arm ever turned loose in a ballpark."

Despite playing for teams that were routinely awful, Johnson won 417 games in his career, second only to Cy Young, who won 511.

Johnson won 32 games in one season; compare that to today, where winning 20 games is considered a major accomplishment.

The Big Train also holds a record that will likely never be broken: In 1916, he pitched 369.2 innings without allowing a single home run.

Let me put this in perspective. Simply pitching that many innings in a season today would be a remarkable feat. Most pitchers never come close to 300 innings per season. It is truly phenomenal that Johnson was physically able to pitch that many innings and totally unthinkable that he could do it without allowing a single homerun. My colleague, the Senator from Kentucky, who is a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame himself, could tell you what an extraordinary accomplishment this is.

Many credit Johnson with carrying the Washington Senators to their first and only World Series title in 1924. They defeated the New York Giants, four games to three.

It was truly a different era in America. Senators fans were so ecstatic that Johnson had carried them to the World Series that before the first game, they presented him with a Lincoln Town Car as an expression of their gratitude. At the time, it was the most expensive car made in America and cost \$8,000. That wouldn't happen today.

In time, Johnson grew to love Washington, DC and even got involved in local politics after he retired from baseball, winning a seat as a county commissioner in Montgomery County, MD.

He frequently held rallies and political events at his home, and ran—unsuccessfully—for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Although Walter Johnson only spent a short time in Idaho—just over two seasons—we claim him as one of our own. We feel proud to have played an important role in launching the career of "The Big Train," and I am honored today to mark the 100th anniversary of his Major League debut.●

HATCH CHILE FESTIVAL

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, today, I would like to mark the annual chile festival in Hatch, NM.

For the last 36 years on Labor Day weekend thousands of New Mexicans and people from around the country converge on Hatch for fun and good food. The Hatch chile festival is the